

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

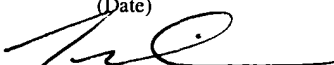
Applicant : Halpin et al.
Appl. No. : Unknown
Filed : Herewith
For : WAFER SUPPORT SYSTEM
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

August 18, 2003

(Date)



Tina Chen, Reg. No. 44,606

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 8 of this paper.